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SOURCE Sinkiang Jih-pao

SINKIANG STATE FARM PLANTS FIRST COTTON CROP,
REPORTS GOOD RESULTS IN SPRING CULTIVATION

Summary: The Pa-i State Farm planted its first cotton crop using Soviet seed No 3173. High corn production in Su-lo Hsien, Sinkiang has been achieved by a mutual aid team using advanced techniques in seed handling and fertilization. Youth Corps members and young farmers in four hsien have been very active during the spring cultivation program.

PA-I STATE FARM PLANTS MORE THAN 1,100 MOU OF COTTON IN 1953 -- Urumchi, Sinkiang Jih-pao, 16 May 53

From the 25 to 30 April 1953 the Pa-i State Farm planted more than 1,100 mou of cotton. In the past, the farmers of Pa-i State Farm have not planted cotton because of the cold climate and early frosts. From the beginning of 1952, however, the farm had studied the condition of the land and the weather. From the weather studies it was learned that the late frost period was during the first part of May and that the early frost usually came late in September. There was a period of 140-odd days when there was no frost. This weather seemed to be suitable for the early ripening of Soviet cottonseed No 3173. It was calculated that a crop from this seed would mature in the period from late April to late September.

In 1953, the farm selected for cotton planting an area which had previously been planted in spring wheat. After spring irrigation, the land was moist enough for the application of 3,000 catties of horse manure or 178 catties of oilseed cake as basic fertilizer. After the land dried, tractors were used to plow it to a depth of 8-10 centimeters. The land was also cross harrowed twice. For planting, a hill seeder was used, and the seed were spaced at 12.5 centimeters in the rows with the rows 70 centimeters apart. Twelve shih-chin $\frac{1}{2}$ shih-chin equals $\frac{1}{2}$ kilogram of seed was used per mou and a growth of 5,000-6,000 stalks per mou is expected.

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To increase the sprouting rate, all the seeds were heated, soaked, and then placed in hotbeds to bring them to the point of sprouting. The results of this method have been very good. Of the 5,000 catties of seed which were treated by the hotbed method, the sprouting of seeds prior to sowing did not exceed 0.5 percent. Seeds which have attained the point of sprouting grow very rapidly after they are planted.

HIGH CORN PRODUCTION IN SINKIANG -- Urumchi, Sinkiang Jih-pao, 20 May 53

After the K'o-jan-mu-wu-shou-erh Mutual Aid Team in Su-lo Hsien, Sinkiang, had completed its spring cultivation plan, it immediately made plans to weed the wheat fields.

On the 30 April, this mutual team had already seeded 59 mou of land after plowing it four or five times. In general, seed selection, seed soaking, and seed germination methods were followed. Twenty four catties of seed corn were soaked in milk, mixed with Tzu-a-hung oil and then planted. Hilling and close planting methods were used on 14.5 mou of land. The K'o-jan-mu-wu-shou-erh team also helped the Ai-ti-li-ssu-t'u area to plant 5 mou of corn and to seed other areas where there was a shortage of labor. In the application of fertilizer, the original amount called for by the plan was exceeded; the planned figure was 100 sacks per mou, but 110 sacks were used. The original plan for the corn fields was to use 20 catties of oilseed residue fertilizer per mou, but later this was increased to 122 catties per mou. In addition to the three high-production mou which are expected to average 1,300 catties of corn per mou, a goal of 800 catties per mou has been set for five mou more.

The K'o-jan-mu-wu-shou-erh Mutual Aid Team has a labor strength of 23 persons, and with the exception of eight who have other duties, the remaining 15 are now available to weed the wheat fields. It is estimated that the team's 49.5 mou of land will be weeded in 7 days.

YOUTH CORPS AND YOUNG FARMERS PARTICIPATE IN SPRING PLANTING -- Urumchi, Sinkiang Jih-pao, 16 May 53

Youth corps members and young farmers of Yen-ch'i, Sui-ting, Ha-mi, and Urumchi hsiens in Sinkiang are all participating in the spring cultivation program. Cadre meetings were called in these hsiens to discuss and to delegate production responsibilities. Cadres organized the farmers into mutual aid teams and also carried out propaganda work.

In Fu-yuan Hsien, 150 of the 170 youths of four ch'u and one hsiang are in mutual aid teams. Due to the work of the youths the number of farmers who have adopted row planting has reached 21 percent in Ssu-shih-hu Hsiang of Urumchi Hsien. In afforestation, locust extermination, digging ditches and other activities the youths are very active. In Ssu-shih-hu Hsiang of the second ch'u, Yen-ch'i Hsien, over 450 women collected more than 110 catties of locust eggs. At present, sowing for spring cultivation is essentially completed.

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